

JOWHAR

URBAN PROFILE

Working Paper and Spatial Analyses for Urban
Planning Consultations and
Durable Solutions for Displacement Crises



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Jowhar Urban Profile
Working Paper and Spatial Analyses for Urban Planning Consultations and Durable Solutions for Displacement Crises -
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In Collaboration with





Mainly Agriculture Usage
 River
 Mainly covered by trees
 Built-up Area
 Trunk Road
 Primary Road
 Secondary Road



scale 1 : 25.000

250 0 250 500 750 1,000 m

Coordinate System: WGS 1984
 Projection: Transverse Mercator
 Datum: WGS 1984
 Unit: Meters

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1. INTRODUCTION



Streets of Jowhar

“You can have data without information, but you cannot have information without data.”

Daniel Keys Moran

The Jowhar Urban Profile provides for an overview about the main features of the city. It shortly analyses the current development challenges with a special focus upon displacement and urban resilience with regard to the Shebelle river floods.

It is a complementary technical document to a several other planning studies and reports to shape the future of Jowhar in a more sustainable way, providing basic urban services to all communities and to leave no one behind.

This Urban Profile summarizes major results of the Community Action Planning process (CAP), government consultations and urban planning exercises from a spatial and socio-economic perspective. Proper urban planning based upon solid urban data, resource mobilization and government led coordination becomes more important to layout foundation work for infrastructure improvements, livelihood opportunities, housing, education, health and other services.

It is hoped that this working paper contributes to the necessary public discussion on Jowhar’s future development and facilitates decision making by local, regional and state and federal authorities.

Reference is being made to other studies and data updates undertaken by UN agencies and other international

stakeholders, such: Fragility Index Maturity Model (FIMM), UNFPA Population Estimation Survey, Atlas of the Juba and Shabelle Rivers in Somalia, SWALIM, Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and Emergency Tracking Tool data (IOM).

This Urban Profile was drafted with support by the local Core Facilitation Team of Midnimo II (Unity) project: “Support for the Attainment of Durable Solutions in Areas Impacted by Displacement and Returns in Galmudug and Hirshabelle States.”

Midnimo II is jointly implemented by The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nation Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and funded by United Nations Peacebuilding Fund.



Jowhar's bridge

“Waxa aad heli kartaa xog adiga oo aan haysan warbixin, laakiin ma heli kartid warbixin adiga oo aan helin xog”.

Daniel Keys Moran

Warbixin-magaaleedka Jowhar, waxa ay soo bandhigaysaa warbixin guud oo ku aaddan tilmaamaha ugu mudan ee magaaladu leedahay. Waxa ay si kooban u dhiraan-dhirinaysaa caqabadaha hortaagan horumarka magaalada iyada oo fiir gaar ah loo yeelanayo saameynta fatahaadda wabiga Shebeelle, barakicinta uu keeno iyo adkeysiga magaaladu ay leedahay.

Waa xog – farsameed kaabaysa daraasado kale oo ku saabsan dhinaca qorsheynta qaabaynaysana muuqaalka mustaqbal ee Beledweyne oo ku taagan lugo xooggan iyada oo maaamulka magaaladu na bixinayo adeegyada aasaasiga ah ee ay ku leeyihiin dhamaan bulshada ku nool Jowhar.

Qorsho magaaleedkan, waxa uu soo koobayaa natiijooyin ka soo baxay kullannadii hannaanka qorsho – shaqeedka bulsho, wadatashiyadii hey'adaha dowladda iyo dhammaan howl-galladii wajiyada badan lahaa kuwaas oo diiradda lagu saarayey qaabeynta qorshaha deggaameed iyo horumarinta mustaqbalka bulshada iyo dhaqaalaheeda. Sidaas daraadeed, qorshe dagaameed hufan oo ku salaysan xog deggaameed sugan, isu-keenid dhaqaale iyo isku dubarid ay horseed u tahay dowladda ayaa lafdhabar u noqoneysa aasaaska shaqo ee lagu hagaajinayo kaabayaasha kala duwan, fursadaha nololeed ee bulshada, guriyeynta, waxbarashada, caafimaadka iyo addegyada kale.

Waxaa la rajeynayaa in qorshe howleedkan uu ku dari doono fikrado mirodhal ka dhiga, fududeeyana go'aannada ka soo baxa wadahaladda mahuraanka ah ee ay bulshada iyo hogaankeeda (heerarka kala duwan ee dowladda) ay ka yeeshaan mustaqbalka magaalda Jowhar iyo horumarinteeda.

Tixraaca qoraalkan waxaa laga soo xigtay daraasadihii kale iyo xogihii kala danbeeyey ee ay sameeyeen xafiisyadiisa kala duwan ee UN ka iyo danyeeyayaasha kale ee caalamiga ah sida: FIMM, SWALIM, Waaxda Lafagurka Sugnaanshaha Cuntada iyo Nafaqada FSNAU, UNFP, Waaxda Qiyaasta Dadweynaha, Maababka Webiyada Shabeelle iyo Juba iyo Waaxda Xogta U kuurgalka Gargaarka ee (IOM).

Howshan (Qaabayn – magaaleedka) qoraalkeeda waxaa gacan ka geystay Kooxda Lafdhabarta u ah hawl socodsiinta barnaamimka Midnimo ee ujeedadiisu tahay: “In la taageero qorshaha xal waara loogu raadinayo deegaamada barakacu saameeyey ee Galmudug iyo Hirshabeelle.”

Midnimo II waxa si wadajir ah u wada fulinaayo The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), waxaana maalgalinaayo United Nations Peacebuilding Fund.

2. JOWHAR CITY INFORMATION

LOCATION AND REGIONAL CONTEXT

Jowhar is the capital city of Hirshabelle State and also the administrative city of Middle Shabelle Region. It is situated about 90 km north of Mogadishu.

Jowhar consists of 4 urban villages, namely Horseed, Bulosheikh, Kulmis, and Hantiwadag. The first two villages are located on the east side of the town, and the last two are on the west side. (See map of page 2)

Jowhar has strategic importance because of its location. It connects Mogadishu to the rest of the central regions through the main road that crosses the country.

GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The current Hirshabelle State is the youngest state of the Federal Government of Somalia.

Jowhar has a district administration led by its District Administrator who was appointed by the federal government with consultation from the state government. The District Administrator has a Deputy District Administrator and two Secretaries of Security and Finance. The district administration is plural in terms of local sub-clans but not in gender.¹

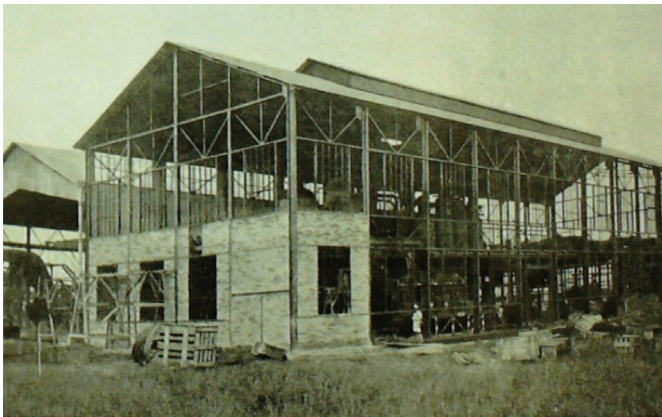
Jowhar does not have a district council yet, but the pre-formation process is currently underway as there was a meeting held in Jowhar in July 2019 to start the discussion of district council formation and to mobilize the community in taking part of the process. The state is headed by the Regional President and is composed of the Jubaland Central Government and Regional and District Administrations.²

A Council of Elders exists in Jowhar and is relatively influential, particularly on matters concerning clan conflict and resource disputes. The council reportedly works with the local government to help with local stability and peace processes. The full council consists of 40 members from a wide range of sub-clans.¹

HISTORY

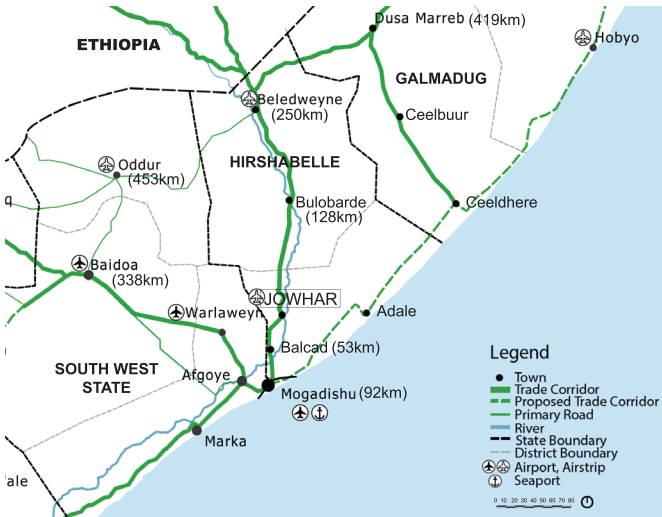
In the Middle Ages, Jowhar was part of the influential Ajuran Sultanate, that covered much of southern Somalia and eastern Ethiopia extending from Mareeg in the north to Qelafo in the west and Kismayo in the south.

During the Italian Colonialism in 19th century Jowhar was developed as a agricultural center experimenting with new cultivation techniques. The italians, who believed in the economic potential of the region, built dams, roads, schools, hospitals, a church and a mosque. In 1926, the colony

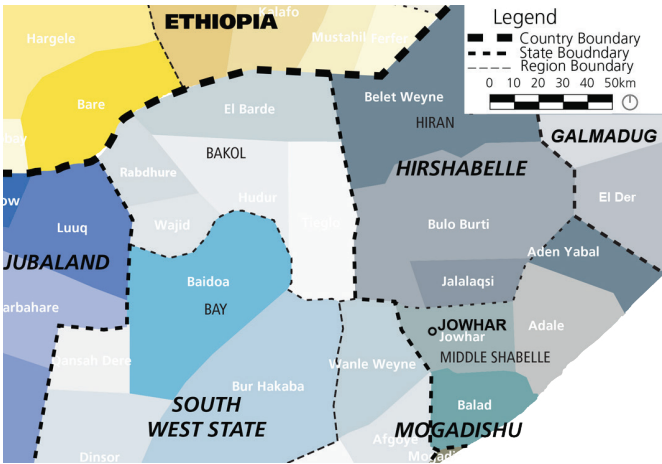


Jowhar's sugar factory under construction in November 1927

1. Fragility Index Maturity Model (FIMM), Round 3 - March 2019
2. Jowhar Community Action Plan, 2019



Jowhar's Regional Context



Administrative boundaries around Jowhar

comprised 16 villages, with some 3,000 Somali and 200 Italian inhabitants. It was commonly known as Villabruzzi. In 1940s there was a railroad system that linked Jowhar to Mogadishu to export the products from their large scale farms.

Jowhar only became the regional capital in the mid-1960s when Mogadishu was taken out of Middle Shabelle to form its own region, Banaadir.

After the independence of Somalia in 1960, Jowhar changed name from the Italian Villaggio Duca degli Abruzzi to the current name.

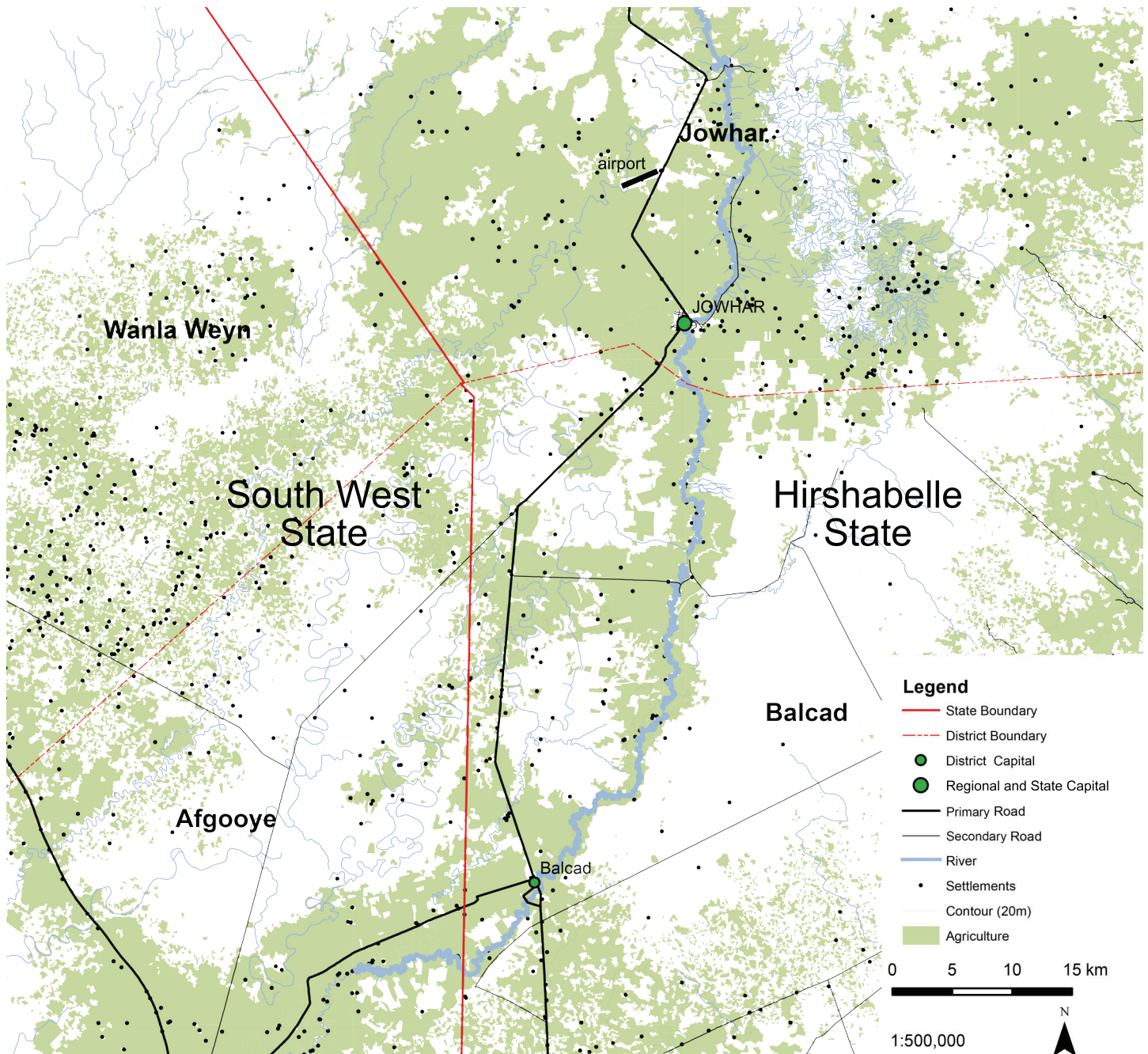
In 2004 Transitional Federal Government moved to Jowhar as a joint administrative capital of the government.

In 2006 the Islamic Courts Union assumed control of Jowhar and other parts of southern Somalia, but the Transitional Federal Government supported by troops from Ethiopia and the African Union re-established its authority on December of the year.

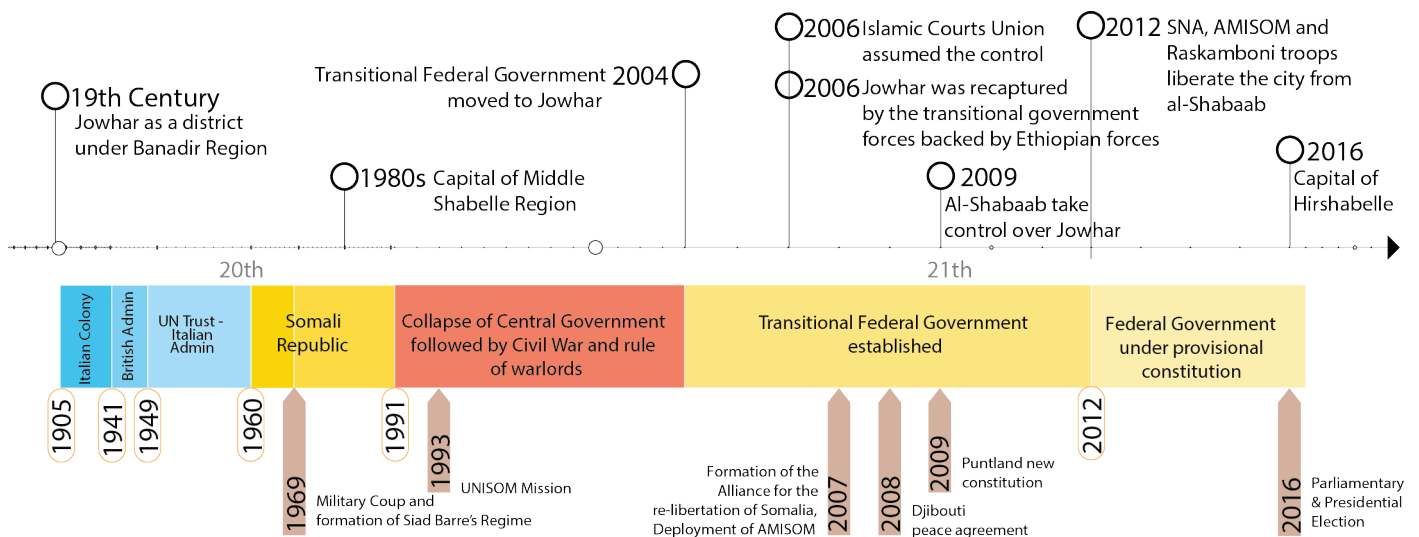
On May 17, 2009, the Islamist al-Shabab militia took the town and imposed new rules.

The town was recovered from Al Shabaab by the Somali National Army (SNA) with the help of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) in 2012.

In 2016 Jowhar became the capital city of the newly formed Hirshabelle State of Somalia.



Jowhar and its hinterland



Timeline of significant event of Jowhar in the last century

3. URBAN GROWTH AND DEMOGRAPHICS

PEOPLE AND DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

UNFPA Somalia population estimates of 2014 indicate that Middle Shabelle has a total population of 516,036; comprising an urban population of 114,348, a rural population of 249,326, 100,402 nomads and 51,960 IDPs.³

Middle Shabelle has the highest percentage of rural population (48%) after Lower Shabelle (60%) and Bay (58%) with a significantly high male population (55.6%). Together, these three regions accounted for more than half of the total population living within the rural settlements.³

Demographic estimates of the urban villages of Jowhar that have been developed are not considered reliable.

POPULATION ESTIMATION OF MIDDLE SHABELLE - 2014 ³

Urban Population	114,348	22.2%
Male pop.	56,104	49.1%
Female pop.	58,244	50.9%
Households:	13,446	
Household size:	8.5 (national average: 6.4)	
Rural Population	249,326	48.3%
Male pop.	138,698	55.6%
Female pop.	110,628	44.4%
Households:	50,099	
Household size:	5.0 (national average: 5.8)	
Nomadic Population	100,402	19.5%
Male pop.	50,000	49.8%
Female pop.	50,402	50.2%
Households:	15,635	
Household size:	6.4 (national average: 6.5)	
IDP:	51,960	10.1%
Male pop.	25,584	49.2%
Female pop.	26,376	50.8%
Households:	14,731	
Household size:	3.5 (national average: 3.7)	
Total:	516,036	

URBAN FORM AND URBAN GROWTH

Analysis through satellite imagery (see maps and charts on page 9) shows some growth in the last 15 years but more moderate than in other regions of Somalia.

The growth of Jowhar is determined by the Shabelle river and there are clearly three very distinct spatial zones: the largest to the west of the river composed of the urban villages of Hantiwadag and Kulmis, and two different areas to the east of the river: Horseed and Buulo Sheikh.

These three areas have grown in recent years but in a very different way. Hanttiwadag and Kulmis have grown in a relatively orderly and hierarchical way following a very particular direction, towards the west. This is because the river and the main road serve as a spatial boundary on the east side.

On the other hand, the urban villages of Horseed and Buulo Sheikh, in the east side of Shabelle river, have grown in a less hierarchical way, following an informal pattern.

In all three cases the growth has been horizontal, without a substantial increase in density leaving an area along the river without new constructions.

As the aerial photograph below shows, Jowhar is surrounded in all directions by crops. Without actions to regulate and manage the way new construction will take place, Jowhar is likely to suffer loss of fertile agricultural land, that may end in land disputes.

This would not be the only consequence of informal growth. If this trend continues there will be a risk of urban fragmentation, illegal occupation and difficulties to provide basic services and infrastructure.



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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_17674

